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## For Immediate Release

### **What's Love Got to Do With it? Probably everything.**

*Discussing Compassion in Civic Life with the Staten Island Museum*

(Staten Island, NY – January 11, 2017) On the evening of Thursday, January 19 the Staten Island Museum is taking the comment section offline and hosting a unique panel of community leaders to discuss current affairs and share experiences of compassion in civic life.

The goal is to have a meaningful discussion ruminating on how to approach your companions, your co-workers, you're your perceived "enemies" with increased empathy and compassion.

The panel is being held at the Staten Island Museum at Snug Harbor and moderated by Meg Ventrudo, Executive Director of the Jacques Marchais Museum of Tibetan Art. The Staten Island Museum at the Jacques Marchais Museum of Tibetan Art recently collaborated on the current exhibition Infinite Compassion: Avalokiteshvara in Asian Art on view through the fall of 2017.

Panelists include: Clifford Hagen (President, Protectors of the Pine Oak Woods), Rev. John C. Bethell (Chaplain, United States Penitentiary Hazelton), Kamillah Hanks (President/CEO at Historic Tappen Park Community Partnership), Ken Bialin (Zen Buddhist Monk & School Principal), Debbie Feaser (Financial Advisor, Edward Jones), and Sr. Madeline from St. John Villa.

Entry to the panel is by donation, all are welcome. Thursday, January 19, 7:00pm – 9:00pm at the [Staten Island Museum at Snug Harbor](#), 1000 Richmond Terrace, Building A, Staten Island, NY 10301.

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### **About the Staten Island Museum**

Founded in 1881 and celebrating its 135<sup>th</sup> year, the Staten Island Museum, New York City's only general interest museum, engages visitors with interdisciplinary exhibitions and educational programs that explore the dynamic connections between natural science, art, and history based on its diverse collections. The Museum serves over 219,000 adults and school children at the Museum and in the community. Now with two locations on the North Shore of Staten Island – in St. George, two blocks from the Ferry Terminal, visitors can embark on a voyage through time in the Staten Island Ferry exhibit; see rocks glow in the dark in the Hall of Natural Sciences; and experience the lives of Staten Island's first inhabitants. In Building A on the Snug Harbor Campus, visitors can explore the latest exhibitions of World Art, land and seascapes spanning 400 years of Staten Island scenery, a life-sized mastodon emerging through the wall, and how our Island went from farm to city. Staten Island Museum is owned by the City of New York and benefits from public funds provided through the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs. For current exhibits, visit [StatenIslandMuseum.org](http://StatenIslandMuseum.org).